

VILLAGE OF VILNA NEWSLETTER July, 2016

COUNCIL NOTES

It's hard to believe that the year is half over. We've survived the spring drought and are now well into the summer rains.

Council met on June 19th. At that time it was reported that current taxes are being paid, but there are nearly \$100,000.00 in prior year taxes outstanding.

Regrettably, there will be several properties on the tax recovery list unless payments are forthcoming.

There were several Fort McMurray evacuees who made Vilna their home base during the month that they were away from their homes. The generosity of those who provided accommodations, those who worked at the evacuation centre in Smoky Lake, those who donated to the evacuation effort shows how a small community can make a difference during an emergency.

The Fort McMurray Disaster opened a lot of eyes and left a lot of us asking "Would we be ready if a fire engulfed our community?" "Do you know what to do if you're ordered to evacuate your home NOW?" Are you prepared to survive in your home if the power, gas and water services are disconnected? Let's be prepared!

The Vilna Emergency Preparedness Committee has scheduled a PUBLIC MEETING for Thursday, September 14th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cultural Centre.

THE FLOWERS ARE BEAUTIFUL

We know you have all noticed the beautiful flower baskets that adorn main street. These were donated by the Vilna Fire Department and are maintained by volunteers. The watering equipment is donated by the Fire Department as well. We are grateful to the Vilna & District Volunteer Firefighters for all they do for our community. Special thanks to Jen and Jennifer for your hard work watering! And Angie for helping to plant!

While you sleep the Vilna Citizens on Patrol keep watch.

Thank you.

All around Vilna are those who quietly go about contributing their random acts of wonderfulness to Vilna and their neighbors.

YOU ARE ALL SO APPRECIATED!!

BE PREPARED FOR THE CARBON TAX (Levy).....

Effective January 1, 2017 the Province of Alberta will be initiating a Carbon Levy. There is no question that it will affect each and every one of us. In order to offset the impact of "Climate Change", we will be required to pay to the province a levy as follows:

FUEL TYPE	January 1, 2017
Diesel	5.35 cents per litre
Gasoline	4.49 cents per litre
Natural Gas	\$1.011 per gigajoule
Propane	3.08 cents per litre

Unfortunately each of these charges is going to affect the operating costs of the municipality.

HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR....

1. Cut your lawn before the dandelions go to seed or the clover is in full bloom;
2. Cut the grass behind your fence and on your boulevard;
3. Keep your dog on your own property and if you're walking it, keep it on a leash;
4. Pick up after your dog;
5. Train your dog to stop barking at everyone who walks by;
6. If you're not home, make sure your dog is not left outside;
6. Keep your cats at home, no one wants their garden to be your cat's litter box.

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

FIRE PITS and BURNING

Remember, only recreation fires are permitted within the Village at any and all times. The only exception is when a permit has been issued by the Fire Department.

- The size of your fire pit is restricted to 32 inches in diameter (82 cm);
- It must be no closer than 14.8 feet (4.5 meters) from any building, property line or combustible material;
- Keep it covered with spark arrester mesh;

Every Owner or Occupier who builds, ignites or allows a fire in an approved fire pit must ensure that:

- **Only dry or seasoned wood intended for recreational purposes** is used (this means no tree or brush trimmings, grass clippings or treated wood, absolutely no garbage);
- A **means of extinguishing** the fire is kept on hand at all times while the fire is burning;
- **The flames from the fire do not exceed 1** meter in height at any time;
- The fire is **supervised** at all times by a responsible person;

- Prior to leaving the fire, the fire is extinguished completely, leaving only cold ashes.

VILNA LIBRARY Programs for all ages are provided at the Library throughout the year. To name a few; Adult fun colouring day, Lego Club, Computer classes.

The library is open:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-7pm and Saturdays 12-4:30pm.
The phone number is 780-636-2077

**VILNA LIBRARY BOOK PURCHASE PROGRAM
FUND RAISER**

Call 780-636-2077 for information

BYLAW REMINDERS

- **BUSINESS LICENSES** must be renewed annually.
- ***Dogs all need a license, even if your precious pet "NEVER" gets outside.***
- ***Grass should be cut weekly, especially now that it's raining.***



Carmen's "Scraps from the Dump"

Just giving you a friendly reminder that loose garbage is an issue. Make sure its in a trash bag and TIED.

Crows, Magpies and Blue Jays are scavengers. Unless your trash container has a lid, they will pick it apart. Dogs and cats as well, and don't forget about the bears!!!! They are attracted by the smell of garbage. Keep the containers sealed ... don't make your garbage a dinner call.

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE *Through the summer months your recyclables will be picked weekly, on Mondays. Don't put the recycling in the trash can. This is when your garden waste will be picked up BUT, don't make the bags too heavy. Any bags over 40 pounds won't be picked up.*

The Vilna Transfer Station is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 5pm.

DID YOU KNOW? – If there is a **streetlight burned out** on your street call ATCO at **1-800-668-2248** or report online at <http://www.atcoelectric.com/Services/StreetLight-Repair-Form>

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 19 – 21 Vilna Boomtown Days

August 20th, 2016 Vilna Agricultural Fair

Bench Show Entries must be submitted on Friday, August 19th between 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Lots of Activities at the Senior's Recreation Centre 780-636-3559: Bingo at 7:30pm on Sundays, Bocci - call for further details

READ YOUR WATER METER

Please read your water meter in the latter half of **August** and phone the Village office with the reading. **780-636-3620**. Leave the reading in a voice message (with your account # or address). Thank you.

Alberta Health Services Screen Test Mobile Mammography Clinic will be returning to Smoky Lake Agricultural Society Hall from August 31 to September 3, 2016. Call 1-800-667-0604 to book an appointment. This is a free service.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.
-Unknown

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